

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1        1. A garment, comprising:  
2              an outer layer;  
3              a harness assembly secured to an interior of said  
4              outer layer, said harness assembly comprising a harness  
5              body and a support line, said support line being received  
6              and stored within said harness body, said support line  
7              having a first end which is accessible from an exterior of  
8              said outer layer, said first end being withdrawn from said  
9              harness body by pulling said first end relatively away from  
10             said garment outer layer.

1        2. A garment according to claim 1, wherein said  
2              support line has a second end, said second end being  
3              accessible from the exterior of said outer layer and being  
4              releasably secured to said harness body.

1        3. A garment according to claim 1, further comprising  
2              an inner liner removably secured to an interior of said  
3              outer layer, said harness body being disposed between said  
4              inner liner and said outer layer.

1        4. A garment according to claim 1, wherein said outer  
2              layer has an opening through which said support line first  
3              end extends.

1        5. A garment according to claim 4, wherein said  
2              opening is normally covered by a flap, said flap being  
3              secured to said outer layer.

1        6. A garment according to claim 4, wherein said  
2              support line has a second end, said second end extending  
3              through said outer layer opening and being fixed relative  
4              to said harness body.

1        7. A garment according to claim 6, further comprising  
2        an inner liner removably secured to an interior of said  
3        outer layer, said harness body being disposed between said  
4        outer layer and said inner liner.

1        8. A garment according to claim 7, wherein said  
2        opening is normally covered by a flap, said flap being  
3        secured to said outer layer.

1        9. A garment according to claim 1, wherein said  
2        harness assembly includes a fastener for releasably  
3        securing a first end of said harness body to a second end  
4        of said harness body.

1        10. A garment according to claim 9, wherein said  
2        support line has a second end, said second end being  
3        accessible from the exterior of said outer layer and being  
4        releasably secured to said harness body.

1        11. A garment according to claim 10, wherein said  
2        outer layer has an opening through which said support line  
3        first and second ends extend.

1        12. A garment according to claim 11, wherein said  
2        opening is normally covered by a flap, said flap being  
3        secured to said outer layer.

1        13. A garment according to claim 1, wherein said  
2        harness assembly include a support line module, said module  
3        being secured to said harness body and receives said  
4        support line.

1        14. A garment according to claim 13, wherein said  
2        harness body defines a chamber and said module is slidably  
3        received within said chamber.

1           15. A harness assembly, comprising:  
2           a harness body portion having a first end and a second  
3           end;

4           a fastener for releasably securing the first end to  
5           the second end to releasably secure said harness body  
6           portion around a wearer;

7           a support line received by said harness body portion,  
8           said support line having a first end and a second end which  
9           extend from said harness body portion, said support line  
10          being removed from said harness body portion by pulling  
11          said support line first end away from said harness body  
12          portion, said support line second end being releasably  
13          secured to said harness body portion.

1           16. A harness assembly according to claim 15, wherein  
2           said support line first end and said support line second  
3           end each have a coupler secured thereto.

1           17. A harness assembly according to claim 16, wherein  
2           said coupler is a carabiner.

1           18. A harness assembly according to claim 15, wherein  
2           said support line is disposed in said harness body portion  
3           in a serpentine fashion so that a length of said support  
4           line is much greater than a length of said harness body  
5           portion.

1           19. A harness assembly according to claim 15, wherein  
2           said support line is made from a heat and fire resistant  
3           material.

1           20. A harness assembly according to claim 15, wherein  
2           said harness assembly is adapted to be secured to an  
3           interior of an article of clothing.

1           21. A harness assembly according to claim 15, further  
2           comprising a support line module, said module being secured

3 to said harness body portion and receiving said support  
4 line.

1 22. A harness assembly according to claim 21, wherein  
2 said harness body defines a chamber and said module is  
3 slidably received within said chamber.

1 23. A method for using a garment to escape from a  
2 building, said garment including an outer layer and a  
3 harness assembly, said harness assembly comprising a  
4 harness body and a support line, said harness body being  
5 secured to an interior of said outer layer and receiving  
6 said support line, a first end of said support line being  
7 accessible on an exterior of said outer layer, comprising  
8 the steps of:

9 accessing said first end of said support line;  
10 withdrawing a length of said support line from said  
11 harness body by pulling said first end of said support line  
12 relatively away from said harness body;  
13 securing said support line first end in a fixed  
14 position relative to said building;  
15 holding said support line and controllably withdrawing  
16 support line from said harness body to lower oneself down a  
17 side of said building.

1 24. A method for using a garment to escape from a  
2 building according to claim 23, wherein said garment also  
3 includes a flap which is normally closed to conceal said  
4 support line first end, and wherein said accessing step  
5 includes the step of opening said flap to reveal said first  
6 end of said support line.

1 25. A method for using a garment to escape from a  
2 building according to claim 24, wherein a second end of  
3 said support line is releasably secured to the harness body  
4 and is accessible on the exterior of said outer layer,  
5 comprising the further step of releasing said second end

6 from said harness to disconnect said support line from said  
7 garment.

1        26. A harness assembly, comprising:  
2            a harness body portion having a first end and a second  
3 end;  
4            a fastener for releasably securing the first end to  
5 the second end to releasably secure said harness body  
6 portion around a wearer;  
7            a support line module containing a support line, said  
8 support line module and said harness body portion being  
9 releasably secured to one another, wherein said support  
10 line has a first end and a second end which extend from  
11 said support line module, said support line being removed  
12 from said support line module by pulling said support line  
13 first end away from said support line module, said support  
14 line second end being releasably secured to said harness  
15 body portion.

1        27. A harness assembly according to claim 26, wherein  
2 said support line module defines a plurality of elongated  
3 chambers, a portion of said support line being received in  
4 each of said chambers.

1        28. A harness assembly according to claim 27, wherein  
2 each of said elongated chambers receives at least two loops  
3 of said support line therein.

1        29. A harness assembly according to claim 26, wherein  
2 said support line module defines a harness chamber and said  
3 harness body portion is received within said chamber.

1        30. A harness assembly according to claim 28, wherein  
2 said support line module defines a harness chamber and said  
3 harness body portion is received within said chamber.